

I Claim

1. A tree limb folding apparatus, comprising:
  - a base structure for mounting to an elevatable support;
  - a generally annular tubular frame mounted rearwardly from said support and bounding a central area for accommodating the lower portion of a tree trunk, said frame having a forward gap for receiving said tree trunk when the apparatus is advanced towards a tree;
  - means for selectively opening and closing said forward gap, including
    - (i) an internal channel through said tubular frame;
    - (ii) a part-circular slider tube seated within said channel for rotational movement therethrough, said slider tube having a space between remote ends thereof congruent with said forward gap of the frame; and
    - (iii) means for rotating the slider tube within the internal channel of the frame between a position in which said forward gap is open to receive a tree trunk into the central area of the frame and a position in which it is closed around a tree trunk received within the central area of the frame.
2. Apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said generally annular tubular frame comprises two hollow arcuate tube sections fixedly mounted in circular orientation at opposite sides of said base structure.
3. Apparatus according to claim 2, wherein said means for rotating the slider tube comprises a hydraulic valve engaging said slider tube and operatively mounted to said base structure.